

health, leading to increased illness, fatigue, and even hospitalizations. Studies have also shown that hunger impairs cognitive function; hungry children are more likely to perform poorly on tests and repeat grades.

Recognizing the relationship between good nutrition and the ability to learn and be healthy, Congress established a pilot National School Breakfast Program in 1966. Because of its success in raising the nutrition level of needy children, Congress permanently authorized the program in 1975. Since its inception, the School Breakfast Program has experienced tremendous growth. According to the USDA, the number of participating students has increased from 0.5 million children in 1970 to 9.7 million in 2006. This means that each day, more and more children receive a breakfast that provides them with one-fourth of the recommended dietary allowance for protein, calcium, iron, Vitamin A, Vitamin C, and calories. And because of improvements in implementation, including initiatives that provide breakfasts both in classrooms, in hallways, and as students exit buses, the number of students participating in the programs has doubled and in some cases tripled. Yet the number of students participating in the Breakfast Program is still much less than half of the number participating in the National Lunch Program. It is vitally important that we keep up the National Breakfast Program's momentum and provide the States with the tools they need to encourage as many needy children to take part as can.

Appreciating the importance of the program, Pennsylvania has helped increase the number of schools that take advantage of this important program. Each year, Pennsylvania invests nearly \$35.5 million in school breakfast and lunch, paying school districts 10 cents for each breakfast served and 10 cents for each lunch served. To increase the number of students receiving both breakfast and lunch, Pennsylvania pays an additional 2 cents per lunch if breakfast is offered in the school and an additional 4 cents per lunch if the school serves breakfast to at least 20 percent of enrolled students. As with national participation, Pennsylvania's participation is on the rise; over 100 more schools participated in the program between 2005 and 2006 than the previous year. Through this resolution, we hope to encourage States, like Pennsylvania, to continue to work toward our common goal of reducing child hunger.

This Senate resolution recognizes the positive impact the National School Breakfast Program has on needy children. The program not only gives students a balanced breakfast, it provides a solid foundation on which they can start their day. Eating breakfast alone increases student attentiveness and improves overall performance and wellness. The National School Breakfast Program is making great inroads into child hunger. This resolution rec-

ognizes the efforts of the States in implementing the program and encourages them to expand their efforts.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 474) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 474

Whereas participants in the National School Breakfast Program established under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773) include public, private, elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as schools in rural, suburban, and urban areas;

Whereas access to nutrition programs such as the National School Lunch Program and the National School Breakfast Program helps to create a stronger learning environment for children and improves children's concentration in the classroom;

Whereas missing breakfast and the resulting hunger has been shown to harm the ability of children to learn and hinders academic performance;

Whereas students who eat a complete breakfast have been shown to make fewer mistakes and to work faster in math exercises than those who eat a partial breakfast;

Whereas implementing or improving classroom breakfast programs has been shown to increase breakfast consumption among eligible students dramatically, doubling and in some cases tripling numbers of participants in school breakfast programs, as evidenced by research in Minnesota, New York, and Wisconsin;

Whereas providing breakfast in the classroom has been shown in several instances to improve attentiveness and academic performance, while reducing absences, tardiness, and disciplinary referrals;

Whereas studies suggest that eating breakfast closer to the time students arrive in the classroom and take tests improves the students' performance on standardized tests;

Whereas studies show that students who skip breakfast are more likely to have difficulty distinguishing among similar images, show increased errors, and have slower memory recall;

Whereas children who live in families that experience hunger are likely to have lower math scores, receive more special education services, and face an increased likelihood of repeating a grade;

Whereas making breakfast widely available in different venues or in a combination of venues, such as by providing breakfast in the classroom, in the hallways outside classrooms, or to students as they exit their school buses, has been shown to lessen the stigma of receiving free or reduced-price school breakfasts, which sometimes prevents eligible students from obtaining traditional breakfast in the cafeteria;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2006, 7,700,000 students in the United States consumed free or reduced-price school breakfasts provided under the National School Breakfast Program;

Whereas less than half of the low-income students who participate in the National School Lunch Program also participate in the National School Breakfast Program;

Whereas almost 17,000 schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program do not participate in the National School Breakfast Program;

Whereas studies suggest that children who eat breakfast take in more nutrients, such as calcium, fiber, protein, and vitamins A, E, D, and B-6;

Whereas studies show that children who participate in school breakfast programs eat more fruits, drink more milk, and consume less saturated fat than those who do not eat breakfast; and

Whereas children who do not eat breakfast, either in school or at home, are more likely to be overweight than children who eat a healthy breakfast on a daily basis: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the importance of the National School Breakfast Program established under section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1773) and the positive impact of the Program on the lives of low-income children and families and on children's overall classroom performance;

(2) expresses strong support for States that have successfully implemented school breakfast programs in order to alleviate hunger and improve the test scores and grades of participating students;

(3) encourages all States to strengthen their school breakfast programs, provide incentives for the expansion of school breakfast programs, and promote improvements in the nutritional quality of breakfasts served; and

(4) recognizes the need to provide States with resources to improve the availability of adequate and nutritious breakfasts.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2709, S. 2710, S. 2711, S. 2712, S. 2713, S. 2714, S. 2715, S. 2716, S. 2717, S. 2718, S. 2719, S. 2720, S. 2721, and S. 2722

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I understand there are 14 bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bills by title en bloc.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2709) to increase the criminal penalties for illegally reentering the United States and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2710) to authorize the Department of Homeland Security to use an employer's failure to timely resolve discrepancies with the Social Security Administration after receiving a "no match" notice as evidence that the employer violated section 274A of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

A bill (S. 2711) to improve the enforcement of laws prohibiting the employment of unauthorized aliens and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2712) to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to complete at least 700 miles of reinforced fencing along the Southwest border by December 31, 2010, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2713) to prohibit appropriated funds from being used in contravention of section 642(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996.

A bill (S. 2714) to close the loophole that allowed the 9/11 hijackers to obtain credit cards from United States banks that financed their terrorist activities, to ensure that illegal immigrants cannot obtain credit cards to evade United States immigration laws, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2715) to amend title 4, United States Code, to declare English as the national language of the Government of the United States, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2716) to authorize the National Guard to provide support for the border control activities of the United States Customs and Border Protection of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2717) to provide for enhanced Federal enforcement of, and State and local assistance in the enforcement of, the immigration laws of the United States, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2718) to withhold 10 percent of the Federal funding apportioned for highway construction and maintenance from States that issue driver's licenses to individuals without verifying the legal status of such individuals.

A bill (S. 2719) to provide that Executive Order 13166 shall have no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes.

A bill (S. 2720) to withhold Federal financial assistance from each country that denies or unreasonably delays the acceptance of nationals of such country who have been ordered removed from the United States and to prohibit the issuance of visas to nationals of such country.

A bill (S. 2721) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to prescribe the binding oath or affirmation of renunciation and allegiance required to be naturalized as a citizen of the United States, to encourage and support the efforts of prospective citizens of the United States to become citizens, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2722) to prohibit aliens who are repeat drunk drivers from obtaining legal status or immigration benefits.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I now ask for a second reading and, in order to place the bills on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 2663

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate resumes consideration of S. 2663, the Consumer Product Safety Commission legislation, the Senate then resume consideration of the Vitter amendment No. 4097, with 15 minutes of debate prior to a vote in relation to the amendment, with the time equally divided and controlled between Senators PRYOR and VITTER or their designees; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to a vote in relation to the amendment with no amendments in order to the amendment prior to the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY,

MARCH 6, 2008

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, March 6; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business for up to 1 hour with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half; that following morning business, the Senate resume consideration of S. 2663, a bill to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and that the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, this evening we were able to reach an agreement to have a vote in relation to the Vitter amendment regarding attorney's fees. Senators should be prepared to vote as early as 10:50 a.m. tomorrow.

Today the leader filed cloture on the bill. However, it is our intention to complete action on the bill tomorrow evening. Therefore, rollcall votes are expected to occur throughout the day in relation to the remaining amendments to the bill.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator THUNE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASEY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

BENEFITS OF RENEWABLE FUEL

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, this last year, Americans sent almost half a trillion dollars, almost \$500 billion, overseas to purchase imported oil from other countries around the world. Think about that massive transfer of

wealth and what that means for our national security because, in many respects, a lot of those dollars being used to purchase imported fuels are going to countries that are not favorable toward the United States. Of course, some say it is a world market, let the market work.

The difference is that most of our trading partners around the world are people we consider to be at least friends, allies, folks we do business with. They are not countries that are funding organizations that are trying to kill Americans. Regrettably, what we end up doing is funding both sides of the war on terror, because we send almost half a trillion dollars annually to foreign countries, petro dictators around the world who use those dollars to fund terrorist organizations that are designed to kill Americans, and then we end up having, of course, to fund our military to go fight the very same terrorists. It seems like a very misguided policy.

I make that point because I think we have a dangerous dependence on foreign energy. Today, 65 percent of our petroleum comes from outside of the United States. As most of us know, the fuels in this country are mostly petroleum based. The reason I say all that is I think we have an important decision to make in this country about whether we are going to continue to subsidize foreign governments, petro dictators who use those dollars that transfer wealth out of this country to fund terrorist organizations that attack Americans, or whether we are going to make an investment in the United States that provides benefits to the economy in America and provides jobs for Americans. I think that is an important decision we have to make.

For the past several years, this Congress as a matter of policy has tried to put into place incentives to increase the production of renewable energy, and with some degree of success. If you look at last year and this year, by the end of this year, we will be at about 7.5 billion gallons of ethanol produced in the United States. There are some 160, I think, ethanol biorefineries in this country. If you look at it, 22 States are home to some of those, with a collective capacity of over 7.5 billion gallons. There are sixty biorefineries under construction and several plants are in the process of expansion. That is a great story for America and for our agricultural economy. It is also a great story for our national security, in my view.

Lately, we have had a lot of attacks launched on the ethanol industry, and on renewable fuels generally. Many of them have been, again in my view, very misguided and misleading in terms of the reporting that has been done regarding food prices. If you look at several editorials recently, the New York Times went out of their way to discount the impact of high energy prices and worldwide demand for protein as reasons for food price increases. Rather, they decided to blame ethanol by